phase. Minor deficiencies in respect of rusting of barbed wire, concertina coils and less thickness of angle irons were noticed in some works at a few places. The entire materials was procured departmentally from various Semi-Govt. agencies and firms of repute. The deficiencies were taken care of by making appropriate deductions from the contractors' bills. A total amount of Rs. 31.08 lakhs was deducted from the bills. Further, matter has been referred to DGS&D and Central Vigilance Commission for appropriate necessary action and enquiry.

Foreigners among the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir

4149. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have identified some foreigners among the terrorists operating in the Kashmir valley;

(b) if so, what is their number and nationality;

(c) whether Government have brought to the notice of the respective Government about the fact; if so, their response in this regard country-wise; and

(d) action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) Government are aware of reports about the presence of some foreign nationals said to be involved in subversive activities along with the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir. However, it is not possible to precisely estimate the number of such persons who may have infiltrated into the State and their nationalities.

(c) and (d) Sustanied pressure is being maintained on the militants. A close watch is also being kept on the possible infiltration routes, and related security arrangements have been tightened. Appropriate action is also being taken at the diplomatic level on the issue of external aid and involvement in terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Demage to temples in Kashmir Valley

4150. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Hindu Shrines in the Kashmir valley have been damaged and sacrilege committed since 1986;

(b) if so, the names of such shrines and the nature of damage caused; and

(c) the steps being taken to protect and to restore these shrines to their original condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) Full information and details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

4151. (*Transferred to 17th December, 1992*)

सूरत स्थित भविष्य निधि आयुक्त के कार्यालय में लंबित कार्य

4152. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सूरत में भविष्य निधि आयुक्त के कार्यालय में कार्यरत कर्मचारियों की संख्या वहां

किए जाने वाले कार्य की दृष्टि से कम है जिसके कारण वहां काफी कार्य लंबे समय से लंबित है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस दिशा में किए गए प्रयासों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) विगत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इस कार्यालय में इस निधि के लाभार्थियों की संख्या कितनी रही है?

श्रम मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पवन सिंह घटोवर): (क) सूरत स्थित उप-क्षेत्रीय भविष्य निधि कार्यालय में कर्मचारियों की कुछ कमी है, तथापि इस कमी के अस्थाई होने के कारण यह अंशदाताओं को सेवा प्रदान करने में आड़े नहीं आ रही है।

(ख) कर्मचारी चयन आयोग के साथ परामर्श करके रिक्त पदों को भरने के लिए आवश्यक कार्रवाई पहले ही शुरू कर दी गई है।

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान अंशदाताओं की संख्या निम्नानुसार थी:

वर्ष	अंशदाता
1989–90	1,26,003
1990–91	1,43,000
1991–92	1,48,070

Revision of minimum wages of Agricultural workers

4153. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times, during the last ten years, the minimum wages of agricultural workers have been revises;

(b) what is the existing minimum wages of agricultural labour;

(c) whether there is a proposal to revise the same;

(d) if so, by when these are likely to be revised;

(e) whether the Government would take care of inflation while fixing the minimum wages;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) in what manner the wages of agricultural workers are comparable with that of industrial workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) The minimum wages for agricultural workers in the central sphere have been revised four times during the last ten years. The last revision was made on August 12, 1992.

(b) The existing of minimum wages for agricultural workers in the central sphere are:

Unskilled :	Rs. 26.00 to Rs. 33.00 (according to areas)
Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	Rs. 29.00 to Rs. 41.00 (according to areas)
Skilled :	Rs. 34.00 to Rs. 48.00 (according to areas)
Highly Skilled :	Rs. 41.00 to Rs. 58.00 (according to areas)
Clerical :	Rs. 34.00 to Rs. 48.00 (according to areas)